



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Eastern District of New York*

DMP:SKW/GMR  
F. #2023R00922

*271 Cadman Plaza East  
Brooklyn, New York 11201*

January 3, 2025

By Email and ECF

The Honorable Eric R. Komitee  
United States District Judge  
Eastern District of New York  
225 Cadman Plaza East  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Re: United States v. Asif Merchant  
Criminal Docket No. 24-362 (EK)

Dear Judge Komitee:

At the Court's direction, the government conferred with counsel for the Federal Bureau of Prisons to arrange for an attorney from the Metropolitan Detention Center ("MDC") to be present at the status conference scheduled for January 6, 2025. MDC's counsel is available to participate in the status conference, however, MDC counsel has requested to be permitted to appear by telephone or video teleconference given several pre-existing conflicts and the risk of inclement weather for the New York City area on January 6. In the alternative, the government requests that the Court adjourn MDC's counsel's appearance until January 7, 2025 or a subsequent time convenient for the Court.

Respectfully submitted,

BREON PEACE  
United States Attorney

By: /s/  
Sara Winik  
Gilbert M. Rein  
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cc: Clerk of the Court (EK) (by ECF)  
Avraham C. Moskowitz, Counsel to Defendant (by email and ECF)